

once you've been a  
dopefiend for a year  
you learn anybody can  
become a snitch  
but when we got the word  
on Chester the Bear  
we all felt bad

as far as good people  
go in the life he was  
one of the best

it was his old lady, finally  
who offered to give him  
the hot shot  
but she was evil, we  
didn't go for it somehow

Al & I took him  
out & got him lushed  
the next night -- he was  
Sick & we said we weren't  
holding so he drank a pint  
in about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  minutes to kill  
the Pain

Al went off  
& came back 20 minutes  
later -- said he'd scored  
& Chester shook half  
a greedy spoon in his winecap  
drew up & it was that  
simple -- anybody could've saved  
him the first half hour so  
we drug him back in  
the alley & covered  
him with an old  
L.A. Countyfair banner

if I hadn't of been  
so high I think  
I'd've cried

— William Wantling      7/65

Wm. Wantling's Heroin Haikus (unpriced fm. Wantling, R.R. 1,  
Kickapoo, Edwards, Ill.) is unpretty but totally successful  
book with words and pictures that work together. Carl Robins'  
Not as a Faceless Number (intro. by Wantling) fm. Hors Commerce  
Press, 22526 Shadycroft Ave., Torrance, Calif. 90505 (\$1). Also  
fm. H.C.P.: Ralph Kinsey's The Last Straw and James D. Callahan's  
Prelude to Armageddon (illust. by Ben Tibbs), both at \$1 per.